

Optometrists (29-1041)

Occupation description: Diagnose, manage, and treat conditions and diseases of the human eye and visual system. Examine eyes and visual system, diagnose problems or impairments, prescribe corrective lenses, and provide treatment. May prescribe therapeutic drugs to treat specific eye conditions. Ophthalmologists are included in "Physicians and Surgeons, All Other" (29-1069).

Employment and Job Openings

	Average employment			Average annual openings		
	2010 estimate	2020 projection	Percent change	Growth	Replacement	Total
Alaska	30	41	36.7	1	1	2
United States	34,200	45,500	33.0	1,140	1,200	2,340

Job outlook

Alaska: Alaska's employment growth is robust with low employment opportunities. [Read more.](#)

2013 Wages ?

	Mean Wage and 95% Confidence Interval			Wage by Percentile		
	Low	Mean	High	10th	Median	90th
United States	n/a	53.67	n/a	25.35	48.70	89.10
Alaska	62.34	85.00	107.66	49.83	80.24	(1)
Anchorage/Mat-Su Area (MSA)	53.30	85.20	117.10	49.28	79.53	(1)

(1) indicates an hourly wage greater than \$90, or an annual wage greater than \$187,200.

Labor Force Indicators

2012 Worker Characteristics

Total workers	Nonresident workers	Percent nonresident	Percent age 45 plus	Percent age 50 plus
42	10	23.8	42.4	36.4

2012 Potential Supply

Qualified but working in another occupation	2
Currently employed in a lower paid occupation	2
UI claimants previously working in occupation	0

2012 ALEXsys Employment Data

Number of registrants	5
Number of job position postings	5
Ratio of registrants to job position postings	1.0

2011 Alaska Licensing Information

Optometrist: 165 licensed

Typical Entry-level Education, Experience, and/or On-the-job Training

Education: Doctoral or professional degree

Work experience: None

On-the-job training: None

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